

Pokagon State Park

450 Lane 100, Lake James

Angola, Indiana 46703 260-833-2012

And Other Park Events!

Property Manager: Ted Bohman
Assistant Property Manager: Sam Boggs
Inn Manager: Barry Barenfanger
Assistant Inn Manager: Ginny Hayes
Inn Activities Director: Jennie Hiatt

Nature Center Staff: Diana Lutz
Aaron Homan
Fred Wooley

December 2009

Potawatomi Inn Activities!

There are numerous activities that take place at the Potawatomi Inn

Too cold to go outside?... Check out our Inn craft room! There are many items from which to choose, from a simple bracelet to a holiday decoration. Stop by the Activities Room or check our schedule at the main desk. Join us!

Whether it's business or pleasure, the Potawatomi Inn has what you need...

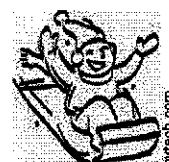


All Programs are Eastern Standard Time!

Catch this and all of your favorite State Park Interpretive Schedules at
www.interpretiveservices.in.gov

Saturday December 5

- 10:30am **A Place in the Pines....** Put on your walking shoes for a little off-trail hiking as we meet at the Potawatomi Inn Main Entrance then head up into a couple of different pine forests. We'll have extra binoculars for a hopeful look at pine squirrels, pine siskins and maybe a red-breasted nuthatch! AH
- 1:00pm **Pokagon Toboggan Time Trials!** Bundle up, get a team, and head to our toboggan run for some fun and friendly competition! Teams will compete against the radar gun
- to
- 3:00pm Team divisions are: Youth Division, Family and Friends Division, Corporate Division, and Best, Most Creatively Costumed Team! Entry into time trials is free with a regular \$10.00 per hour, per toboggan rental. Time Trial Rules available at the Warming Center and Nature Center. Join us!



Sunday December 6

- 8:30am **Junco Jaunt.** Bring binoculars, or borrow a pair of ours, and meet on the Inn Sun Deck for our traditional Sunday morning journey looking for Juncos and other snowbirds and winter wildlife. We'll be out for about an hour and a half. In case of inclement weather, we'll meet inside the Potawatomi Inn near the coffee machines. From there, we'll bundle up and head out! FW
- 2:00pm **Critter Feeding Time.** This afternoon, our resident turtles, frogs, and snakes will be getting their bi-weekly meal. Stop by the Nature Center Auditorium for an informal hour of observing our Nature Center chores! Watch them eat, or maybe feed them yourselves! DL

Saturday December 12

- 2:00pm **Trail 9 Trek!** Looking for a good long walk over a moderately rugged trail through wooded ravines and along wooded swamps? This hike is for you! Join us at the Inn Main entrance for a walk out Trail 3 then on Trail 9 to the far east edge of the park to see the site where the Pokagon Motel once stood. Then back past the old CCC rock dams and back to the Inn. We'll be out a good two hours – plus. Bundle up and join us! AH



Sunday December 13

- 8:30am **A Brisk Bird Search!** See Sunday, December 6, at 8:30am for program meeting place and details. DL
2:00pm **Critter Feeding Time.** See Sunday December 6, at 2pm for details. AH

Saturday December 19

- 2:00pm **Scats and Tracks, What Critters Leave Behind!** Come to the Nature Center Auditorium for a short show 'n' tell session on the signs that Pokagon critters leave behind. We'll be inside for maybe 30 minutes to get the poop on the details of winter animal investigations, if you know what we mean. Then we'll bundle up and head outside to see if we can find the real thing! AH

Sunday December 20

- 8:30am **Fresh Air Jaunt.** See Sunday, December 6 Junco Jaunt, at 8:30am for details. FW
2:00pm **Critter Feeding Time.** See Sunday, December 6 for details. AH
6:30pm **A Winter's Night Walk.** Bundle up and gather in the Inn Lonidaw Lounge as we welcome winter, beginning tomorrow, with a walk into the dark woods. We'll head out across the lawn and to the lakeshore where we'll get a hopeful look at the great winter southern constellations. Clear skies or not, we'll turn our attention to the deep woods and continue up Trail 1, all without lights, as we try to coax in an Eastern screech or Great-horned owl. WHooooooo knows what we'll encounter.... FW

Monday December 21 Nature Center is open 10am to 5pm today!

Tuesday December 22

- 2:00pm **Wintering with Wildlife.** Gather in the Nature Center Auditorium for a show 'n' tell session on some of Pokagon critters and discussion on how they are wintering during our long cold months of northeast Indiana. With pelts and mounts and a photo or two, we'll weave a couple of tales of our feathered and furred friends keeping their tails warm and alive! DL



Wednesday December 23 Nature Center is open 10am to 5pm today!

Thursday December 24

- 9:00am **Eleventh Annual Christmas Eve Morning Trek.** You say you got the shopping done?! Great, now how about a hike through the park's interior to relax and enjoy the spirit of the season. Meet in the Inn Lobby for a hike back to the Spring Shelter, get warm by a fire, enjoy some treats, and back to the Inn.. We'll go through beautiful pine forests and cut through a quiet campground. Join us for this annual tradition! FW

Note Nature Center will close early on Christmas Eve, at 3:00pm

Friday December 25

Nature Center is Closed today. Have a great Christmas!

Saturday December 26

- 2:00pm **Turtles at Two!** Join us in the Nature Center Auditorium for a quick look at what our Pokagon turtles are doing this time of year, both outside in the frozen wilds and inside the warmth of our comfortable Nature Center. DL



Sunday December 27

- 8:00am **A Fresh Air Jaunt!** See Sunday, December 6, for program meeting place and details. Note earlier time! FW



Monday December 28

30th Annual Christmas Bird Count. For serious birders, it's our annual, all-day, big event! Prior registration required. \$5.00 per person fee. Contact the Nature Center by December 25th 260-833-2012.

Tuesday December 29

1:00pm to 4:00pm **Bird Banding Demonstration.** This afternoon at the Nature Center, guest interpretive naturalist John Schaust will band birds after first catching them in special nets set up in front of our feeding stations at the "Woodland Window." Come and stay for some or all of the banding. With the winter feeding stations in continuous action, we're ensured a "bird in the hand" the entire time!

Wednesday December 30

10:30am **The Frozen Marsh.** Gather at the Inn Main Entrance, from where we'll take off on a short walk down to the wetlands surrounding Lake Lonidaw. It's a beautiful spot any time of year. This morning we might turn up a robin or bluebird seeking refuge and food in the lowlands! FW

2:00pm **Critter Feeding Time.** See Sunday, December 6 for details. AH

Thursday December 31

Nature Center is Open today. 10am to 5pm!

Friday January 1

Nature Center is Closed today. Have a great New Year's!



Saturday January 2

2:00pm **A Trapper's Tales.** Gather in the warmth of the Nature Center Auditorium for a chat about fur bearers from the standpoint of a trapper who catches animals for their pelts and the fur industry. See some pelts, traps, and other tools of the trade from the life of a trapper. AH

Sunday January 3

10:30am **Critter Feeding Time.** See Sunday, December 6 for details. AH

Nature Center School Season Hours:

Monday to Friday, 1pm to 5pm Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 5pm
Special Holiday Hours: Nature Center Open Dec. 19 to January 3, 10am to 5pm
Christmas Eve: 10 to 3pm Closed Christmas and New Year's Day